

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: JimN00CT@aol.com
Subject: [2022] 30 meter RTTY nx.....
Message-ID: <950726070302_41024081@aol.com>

Ok you propagation proles, does anyone else hear a Military/Commercial
SITOR/AMTOR/?TOR type station destroying 10.108 MHz morning noon and night
like I do. Lucky me, that's where my rock sits.

Bummer

73, N00CT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: [2018] A N N O U N C E M E N T Poor man's DXpedition
Message-ID: <95072521283387@sescva.esc.edu>

N2KPY will be operating from Block Island, Rhode Island beginning on
Monday, July 31 (my 20th wedding anniversary) thru friday, Aug 4th.
The frequencies and times will be announced shortly. I must consult with the
xyl (N2SXY) since it IS her wedding anniversary too. Stay tuned.
Block Island is located approx. 12 miles south of Rhode Island and 12 miles
east of Montauk Point, Long Island NY. I plan on operating aboard the family
yacht (?) the NORUMBEGA from New Harbor. The rig will be an argo 509 to a
vertical set up on the deck. In the past we have used the telescopic boat
hook with mixed results. If I get on 20 or 15 meters, a dipole is used fed
with twin lead. The amount of time I spend on the air is directly related
to the weather. If the weather is cloudy, I will be on alot. The only things
to do on Block Island is drink or sit in the sun. When there is no sun, you
can only drink so much. If the weather is good, I won't be on that much.
However, I have taken the ham gear out with me on the Achilles (like a Zodiac)
and have made contacts while sitting in the sun. The antenna I use for
that is a 20 meter ham-stick bolted to the outboard motor. It works.
Anyway, this is just a tease and the rest of the info will be sent over
soon.
Thanks alot.
Peter N2KPY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: mvjif@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton 508 960 2577)
Subject: [2034] ARRL Conv. QRP-NE Forums
Message-ID: <9507261729.AA23998@ig1.att.att.com>

Dont forget to attend the QRP Forums on Saturday,
7/29/95, at the ARRL convention in Manchester NH.

Sat. 12:00 Howie Cahn, WB2CPU brings modern techniques such
as Digital Signal Processing, Direct Digital Synthesis
and high integration to Home Brew radios.

Rick Littlefield, K1BQT offers tips on how to get new
parts to construct Home Brew radios.

Sat. 2:00 Dennis Marandos, K1LGQ introduces QRP-NE, and will
give the inside scoop on what the QRP club is all about.

Sat. 3:00 Dave Benson, NN1G will describe how to construct a low
power, low cost, single band, superhet, HF Transceiver.

See you there.....

72, Jim W1FMR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: av440@freenet.Buffalo.EDU (Tom T. Shaffer)
Subject: [2015] Bread Board or etched PC board? And Need help with a schematic
Message-ID: <199507260011.UAA03864@freenet.buffalo.edu>

ok ive been getting many mixed ideas from many people and I am gratefull.

However i am confused with many aspects of "Homebrew" and "QRP"
Projects.. i basically have a list of 2 very goo (they seem to me)
Reciver and X-mitter projects ide like to build them but have no idea on
what the modern day equivilant is of the part, alos ive been hearing you
should use breadboard.. then i hear you should use PC board, well i got
confused so im gonna give you some background on me and ask for the
Benifits of Both, i am not a good person when it come to soildering, I
cannot identify parts worth anything, I cannot read schematics too well,
ie the project said (Chassis connection) this in my mind means put this
on the chassis ie Soildering the part to the chassis, am i right there?

now if you can read Schematics (sp?) i need your help, i have no idea how

to follow this thing nor do i have an idea on what to do, like im looking at Latin! If you would be wiling to help me find the modern day equivilant of parts or step by step instruction on building something please mail me.. Just to let you know, im Unemployed so i cant buy much, IE Kits and that, i can get parts cheaper and easier than if i were to go out and get a kit.. I could mail the schematics to you, or fax them..

Thanks alot in advance!
mucho Gracias in advianceo!
Tom!

--
--Tom T. Shaffer----- 8o) ----- av440@freenet.buffalo.edu -----
| KB2URI | Fan of: TYO's, Ab-Fab, MPFC & Clas. Rock! |
| | MST3K member #10102, Don and Mike R Back! on 1370Am Buf,Ny |
--If your M. Palin, E. Idle, W. Shatner or Anyone MAIL ME!!! :) -----

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: markem@primenet.com (Mark Monninger)
Subject: [2020] HW-16 Mods?
Message-ID: <199507260327.UAA28851@mailhost.primenet.com>

Unless I am going senile, I seem to remember some discussions a while back about using the Heath HW-16 as a QRP rig. There was mention of some mods to crank the power down to <=5W amd some mods to improve the receiver section. I looked on the server but didn't see any mention of them. Can anyone forward me a copy of the mods or point me to where I can get them?

Many thanks.

73 Mark AA7TA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: jason@persoft.com (Jason F. Penn)
Subject: [2038] Is a Heath "Sixer" QRP?
Message-ID: <m0sbEcB-0002AMC@persoft.persoft.com>

Greetings to all. Hopefully this is not wildly off topic.

I picked up a Benton Harbor Lunchbox recently for three dollars US. No manual, just the Sixer and power cord. Cosmetically it looks great, good soldering and all that. However, there *is* a gaping hole cut in

the side where a crystal socket is exposed.

What is a source of a manual or a schematic?

What is the story on the crystal socket? There is control labeled 50-54MHz on the front. Is that just for tuning the output network?

Skipping many other questions:

What kind of fun can be had with this rig? They seem to be quite common at hamfests lately (or I'm just starting to notice them) for cheap.

They are AM with a super-regen receiver, I think. What frequencies of crystal would be good choices? Can the transmitter be converted to NBFM fairly easily? How about adding a BFO to the receiver for CW?

Is this a complete waste of time?

Thanks for the bandwidth. I'll ask for email replies to minimize ruffled feathers to the tune of "I didn't want to read about that". I'll gladly provide summaries to all askers if I am asked.

73 de Jason N9RPT

--

Jason F. Penn N9RPT | Persoft, Inc. | jason@persoft.com
Whenever I want to find something, it's always in the last place I look.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: stratton@MIT.EDU
Subject: [2033] low power VHF for xmitter
Message-ID: <199507261926.PAA01753@n1iir.mit.edu>

One way of easily getting a small signal on 2m is to buy a TTL crystal clock oscillator (<\$5) in the 48 mhz range and build a filter or tuned amplifier to select the 3rd harmonic (Make sure you get the 5th harmonics really down). On off keying for CW is easy, reactance modulation for NBFM is possible but a bit trickier. If you manage the necessary 3khz or so deviation for FM, you could use a radio shack direct analog voice EEPROM chip (\$18) or a modified Hallmark greeting card (\$10? See recent QST article) to identify your 'fox'.

Chris, N1IIR

stratton@mit.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: pcalcand@sescva.esc.edu (PETER CALCANDY)
Subject: [2017] NEED ADVICE!!!
Message-ID: <95072521183031@sescva.esc.edu>

I have recently put together a "Hands" HF amplifier kit purchased from Kanga. The problem I am having is that the amp is delivering between ten and thirty watts out without excitation. I am told I have parasitic oscillations in one of the stages. My frequency counter seems to confirm this. I am not sure where to turn next. Any ideas? This little amp is to assist my qrp rigs and I was hoping to get it up and running in time for my poor man's qrp expedition to the Isle of Block next week. Since I plan on operating from the family craft, (boat) I need that little extra to compensate for a crummy antenna I will be using on 40 and 80 meters. If I cannot get it going by Friday, I will leave it home and operate without it. The schedule will follow in a day or two.
Thanks alot
Peter N2KPY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: ae865@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Alvin L. Hand)
Subject: [2016] next group qrp + buy
Message-ID: <9507260032.AA28198@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Help!! I understand that there is another group buy for the qrp + in progress and that orders must be in this week. Problem is that I haven't been able to find out who is coordinating this one so I can send \$. Can anyone help here?
Tnx A. L. Hand AB5TZ
E-maae865@rgfn.epcc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: Jeff Gold <JMG@tntech.edu>
Subject: [2036] Oak Hill 4 bander
Message-ID: <01HTBWY13G1E96X6I1@tntech.edu>

Hello all,

well finally have 30 seconds or so inbetween projects.

Just got off the phone with Dick from Oak Hills. The 4 banders are suppose to ship by the end of this week and early part of next week. He did some changes since Dayton. The VFO will cover 150 and the power has been upped to 5 watts, using the case as a heat sink. The color of the paint on the cases is going to be a greyish-blue and he has upgraded the knobs.. the tuning knob is going to be larger.. also some other changes (and due to my old age I can't remember any more of the conversation).

Can't wait for my Norcal SSB... this time I forced myself to send in the check before my XYL realized the money was gone. We haven't fed my 12 year old in a couple of months to make up for it, but he eats way too much and too often and the kit is much more important.

Best 73,72... de Cookeville, TN (center of the known and unknown universe)

Jeff, AC4HF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)
Subject: [2024] Oddball Crystal values?
Message-ID: <2a6.37704.500@acenet.com>

(adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org) writes:

AD>As you may or may not know, I am working on constructing a VXO 2m
AD>transmitter as part of a Mode A satellite station (2m up, 10m down).
AD>I am having trouble finding crystals for the 2m transmitter.
AD>I need anything that could produce a signal around 145.8mhz.
AD>I could possibly use a 73mhz crystal doubled or something else along
AD>those lines.

AD>Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS

Sounds like a GREAT project Adam! I love satellite operating, though I only have gear for RS-12 these days, he he! Maybe I will build one too! Here is where to get your crystals. You need to use a multiplier circuit with say a X 12 factor from a 12 MHz range crystal for best results.

Sources for crystals used in amateur radio:
List by AF4K, Updated May 21, 1995

Antique Radio Classified 508-371-0512 Write for free sample.
P.O. Box 802 Magazine. You'll find almost ANYTHING here
Carlisle, MA 01741 for older radios, obscure parts, tubes etc.

Cal Crystal Waiting for more information
Buena Park or Anaheim (not sure which)
California
They will MAKE rocks for almost anything.

Cathodeon Crystals, Need phone number
A PYE Group Company
Linton,
Cambridgeshire
England (Need postal code) Crystals

Crystek Crystals 800-237-3061
2351/2371 Crystal Drive
Ft. Myers, FL 33907 Quartz Crystals

CW Crystals Inexpensive, but SLOW to respond.
570 N. Buffalo Street
Marshfield, MO 65706 (Crystals, \$1.00 catalog)

Debco Electronics 800-423-4499
Address needed Crystals for \$1.25 and up - catalog.

International Crystal Mfg Co. 405-236-3741
10 North Lee Street Crystals!
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

ICM (International Crystal Manufacturing Co., Inc.) 800-426-9825
P.O. Box 26330: 701 W. Sheridan
Oklahoma City OK 73126-0330

JAN Crystals 800-526-9825: 813-936-2397
P.O. Box 06017: 2341 Crystal Drive: Crystals
Ft. Myers, FL 33906-6017

LESMITH CRYSTALS (905) 844-4505
54 Shepherd Rd, Fax = (905) 844-2274
Oakville, ON
L6K 2G5
CANADA Crystals for amateur radio. VISA & MC OK.

MDM radio (708) 848-4210
Address needed FAX = (708) 848-0230.
Channel Elements for commercial 2-way radios.

Petersen Radio Co. (712) 323-7539
2735 Avenue "A"
Council Bluffs, IA 51501 Crystals

Ryan Communications 412-368-3859
BOX 111E Camelot Road (QRP CW transmitter, ready made,)
Portersville, PA 16051 (and transmitter kits, crystals)

Velco Electronics (716) 924-2073
Address needed (716) 924-2136 = FAX
Crystals

C. W. Wolf Communications (406) 252-9220
Address needed FAX = (406) 252-9617
Channel elements for commercial 2-way radios.

I hope this helps you!

This list was prepared by AF4K, Brian Carling - Updated May 21, 1995
Please send additional sources for inclusion in this list.
If you go to a hamfest and see someone selling crystals, please
get a card and send me their name, address and phone number.

(301) 990-6070
brian.carling@acenet.com

SLMR 2.1a "Old adages" are redundant.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: dh@deneb.csustan.edu (Doug Hendricks)
Subject: [2021] Offers of help
Message-ID: <9507260518.AA07039@deneb.csustan.edu>

Sorry about the bandwidth. I have received several offers of help with my phone bill problem and internet. The problem is that I live in a small town and there are NO local providers. WE even pay long distance for compuserve and America Online. I have tried every known way, and there is just not a solution out there yet. thank you for your offers of help, it is appreciated.
72, Doug

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>
Subject: [2037] Pixie xtals
Message-ID: <9507262033.AA05662@voder.nsc.com>

I thought I saw someone post that they had used 7.040MHz or 7.030MHz xtals in their pixie.

Would that someone review please and tell us/me where they got those xtals?

=====
7.3 de Michael aa0ub | QRP:
miker@cc.com Norcal #857 | "This thing's a radio?"
=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [2029] QRP mfgr's list idea
Message-ID: <950726140426_41238554@aol.com>

The #1 FAQ goes like this:

"Can someone give me sources for QRP rigs and kits?"

How about some energetic person (that excludes me) compiling and maintaining a complete list of QRP rig and kit manufacturers... I mean *all* of them and

not just the bias of one person. Ten-Tec, MFJ, NorCal, QRP+, OHR,.....
etc etc. The list could give the current phone/address/email information on
each source and, if there was room, brief descriptions on products
available.

This list could be posted occasionally, or sent out to anyone requesting it.

72, Jay
WB6AAM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: [2023] S&S e-mail address
Message-ID: <1995Jul26.075718.20780@abs.net>

Someone recently asked for the e-mail address of S&S. Dick Szakonyi,
KA3ZOW, does have an address, but he has not touched it for quite some
time. I send him a couple of messages well over a month ago and both
bounced, with a "mail box full" message. Talking to him at a hamfest a
couple weeks ago, he said he's been much too busy to even look at it,
and that would probably be the case for some time to come. He's also
been snowed under by his Day Job, very long hours, so work on the 40
meter version of the TAC1 transceiver has been on hold for some time.
He expects a break in the hours fairly soon, and if that materializes
he will push ahead with the design changes. (And he already has orders
for the 40M version.) The address is dzak@aol.com; you might want to
file it away for possible future use, but for now it's not going to do
much good :-(

73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ wa8mcq@bbs.abs.net
--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: geoffs@onr.com (Geoff Schecht)
Subject: [2031] Tokyo Hi Power Labs Question
Message-ID: <199507261910.0AA03656@Sierra.onr.com>

Hi All:

This isn't exactly a QRP topic; it's more in a QRO vein but maybe

someone can provide some answers.

I was discussing a couple of Tokyo Hi-Power Labs tuners that I have with someone a while ago and suddenly remembered that they're no longer sold in the US. These tuners are, at least in my opinion, very good units made to high mechanical standards that are becoming uncommon these days.

Their stuff wasn't cheap but the quality seemed to sort of justify the prices.

THP Labs made a little desktop linear for a while that used a couple of 4CX250's. It was quite small (and maybe noisy due to the forced-air requirement). That was one of the few sensible-looking small linears that I'd seen and I kind of wished I'd have gotten one now. 4CX250's are rated for RF use and are a lot tougher than the TV horizontal sweep tubes that typically got stuck in domestic small linears of the same period.

I recall that this particular linear had better-than-average power sensitivity. Was it made to put some oomph into the semi-qrp domestic Japanese ham rigs of that period (like for maybe giving the Yaesu FT-301S's output a 17dB kick in the pants)?

THP Labs used to be represented by a company in Plano, Texas. Does anybody have the history/final story about what happened to their US operations?

Thanks in advance & 73's;

Geoff NQ7A Austin, TX

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: "Richard Hieber" <SZ0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>
Subject: [2032] Vacation
Message-ID: <2DA30A835AD@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de>

Hi gang,

I'll be away from home for approximately three weeks, so anything sent to me will go unanswered for this period. I decided not to unsubscribe .. recovery of the archive files at <ftp.lehigh.edu> is mostly very tedious for me, being from Europe, and besides, I am curious how much mail I'll find in my mailbox when I return. Close to 1000 items from QRP-L alone, I am sure ;-)

I am deeply sorry that I didn't find the time so far to update the QRP Clubs List and the FAQ that I once posted. There have been many changes and I archived all the announcements that I found here on the list, but I will need a couple evenings for editing and checking it all out. I would hate to see the eagerness of some competent list member crushed by my procrastinating, so if somebody feels like rewriting the FAQ he might just drop a note and then go ahead as long as some reference to my work is included (the authors vanity is hereby graciously admitted).

If not, I intend to start working on it as soon as I come back from my holidays which I will spend in Lithuania and northeastern Poland. This is a backpacking tour and I will take absolutely NO radio with me. Taking care of the necessary transmit permit for both countries (which are not CEPT members yet) was just too much of a hassle and would interfere with my first aim to get to know the country and the people. But I certainly will keep my eyes open for big beam antennas, as always ;-)

Best 72,
Richard

--

Richard Hieber, DL8MFQ/AA8CP
sz0026@daphne.rrze.uni-erlangen.de

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [2027] Re: 1/2 watt transmitter for RDF
Message-ID: <950726131306_123407244@aol.com>

There are several ways to go about transmitters for RDF work:

Using a timer circuit out of a Radio Shack timer cookbook, I built a device which would key a portable. My device had controls for adjusting the duration between transmissions and the length of transmission. I don't have the info, but it's a simple NE555 or other timer and a relay. It ran on a 9V battery but could have used the HT's power. It plugged into the Mic/PTT jack on the H/T.

This is hearsay, but there is a ham company which makes a fancy "fox" T-hunt device; a transmitter, timer and ID circuit. I think it has voice ID, buzzers, whistles and a soft-drink dispenser. Maybe someone has more info on it than I.

Try some companies who sell vehicle tracking systems, surveillance devices

and bugs, but avoid those fly-by-night "Spy Stores" and magazine ads for microscopic "bugs" with a 1000 mile range.

Vehicle or parcel tracking systems use a VHF or UHF CW transmitter. The transmitter keying is repetitive, a typical cycle may be 25 ms on (transmit) and 1-3 seconds pause. Some of these transmitters feature two or more pulse rates and motion detectors. The transmitter lets the surveillance team know if the vehicle or parcel is moving, at rest or parked. These surveillance transmitters use powers of 1/2 to 6 watts typically. The DF (display) side of the tracking system may use a "doppler" type display which is a circle of LEDs or a radar-scope like display in the expensive models. The direction to the target is in degrees relative to the vehicle or aircraft. Some DF systems use a left-right meter or bargraph display which requires hand rotation of an antenna or fore-aft AND left-right antennas placed on the follow vehicle.

Tracking transmitters used on wild animals generally use a very low-powered pulsed transmitter and make up for it by using large yagi antennas. The antenna is rotated for an increase in tone or signal strength.

72, Jay

WB6AAM

(Seek & Destroy Radio Jammers)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995

From: rarland@epix.net

Subject: [2019] Re: A N N O U N C E M E N T Poor man's DXpedition

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950725222509.24974A-100000@mango.epix.net>

You got guts!

Keep us posted on the times and frequencies you'll be working.

73 es GL with the MYL

rich

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995

From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>

Subject: [2035] RE: Bread Board or etched PC board? And Need help with a schematic

Message-ID: <n1405351711.18390@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

I can clarify the question about breadboards vs. PC boards, and the chassis

grounding question.

Even if you do not work, you must have some resources, and initiative; because you have managed to get on Inet. You should be able to practice your soldering on scrapped circuit boards before starting a project. Some electronics surplus houses sell/give away junk boards without components, that you could add components to, as soldering and assembly practice. Find another local ham "elmer" or a club and find out who builds projects and apprentice under them. Find a used Heathkit with manual, and study their instructions on how to solder, how to mount components and boards, how connections are made between board ground and chassis. Usually a chassis connection also goes to the ground plane, (wider copper areas) of printed circuit boards, and a wire goes to a bolt and solder lug on the chassis, or chassis connection is made thru the shell of connectors bolted thru the chassis wall. Breadboards is a slang term that came out of the early days of radio. Projects were built on large insulating boards before the days of all metal chassis and the knowledge that RF metal shielding and enclosures are needed for best radio performance. For experimenters and hobbyists who did not have a source for phenolic boards, or some of the other high quality insulating material, they turned to wooden boards easily found in the home kitchen, upon which bread was rolled out. Thus the bread board was appropriated to the home radio project. Later, any prototype board used for experimental construction was called a breadboard. And now Radio Shack and others sell symmetrical patterned printed circuit boards with lots of holes and copper pads for building prototype or one of a kind circuits, and they are called breadboards still. They also have another commercial type, which is a plastic matrix of metal jacks, with power bus row and ground bus row, and connectors to those busses for a power supply with red and black binding post jacks. This type interconnects pads with solid jumper wires made of hook up or bare copper, (bus) wire. The spacing on the copper padded PC breadboard or the jumper type is made to the standard spacings of component and IC or transistor leads for ease of insertion; or you can use the standard sockets during the development phase of your project. For more reliable contacts direct insertion and soldering of IC and transistor leads is done in final boards. You can find inexpensive bread boards to handle many simple projects at Radio Shack or other electronics parts houses like Mouser, Digi Key, Allied and Newark. Some printed circuit projects from the magazines have boards etched and drilled and for sale to amateurs from FAR Circuits, Inc. Both approaches above are easier than making your own PC boards, but Radio Shack and the others sell kits for etching copper boards and layout materials. Blue Print companies also handle printed circuit drafting supplies in larger towns.

Hope these thoughts will help,
Stuart K5KVH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995

From: CICIORA STEVEN JOSEP <ciciora@spot.Colorado.EDU>
Subject: [2025] Re: more L than QRP!
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950726083220.5544C-100000@spot.Colorado.EDU>

On Tue, 25 Jul 1995, CICIORA STEVEN JOSEP wrote:

<snip>
>
> Please keep in mind that the above is only one man's opinion. I, for
> one (being new to ham radio) found most of the 136 items interesting. If
> this is a problem, can I suggest getting 10 free hours from American On Line?
>
> - Steven Ciciora
>

Gee, it seems that when ever I try to disagree w/ someone, I always end up sticking my foot in my mouth (big time!). I'm sorry for the tone of the above post, and espicially for committing the sin of not doing my homework (I should have at least read the email address of the origional poster, and realized that AOL was not an option!). To reply to the several private emails I have gotten, Yes, I really did read _every_ post on the net, and I _really_ found most of them informative (only about half of the mic articles, though. It was informative on the average prices of rigs, parts, customer service, etc). The only stuff I didn't find interesting (but amusing) was the Soviet Ogla thread. Anyway, I apologize for trying to be a smart-alec, and I'll try to do my homework in the future. The reason for my (unjustified) attitude is on the Do It Yourself Electronic Fuel Injection mailing list I subscribe to, some self-richous person in an effort to show how much he knew tried to have postings limited to a pre-set lengh because he thought an explanation was too long (waffeling) just because it went in too much low level detail for the beginner.

I'll try not to make a fool of myself in the future...
-Steven Ciciora

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [2030] RE: NEED ADVICE!!!
Message-ID: <n1405356274.19351@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

I don't know how many stages this has, but if more than one, disable by unsoldering power to the last one and see if you have osc. without last stage powered up. BTW, you are testing it into a dummy load with a LPF on its output? Many kit circuits do not have enough filter circuit on the output side. I

would also test it with a 50 ohm resistor on the input if you don't have drive to it. That way it is seeing both proper driving and load impedance with the two dummy loads. Anyway, you can wind a couple turns of insulated wire on a pencil as a winding form, so they will be self supporting when you pull out the pencil. Then solder the two turn loop to a small coax or shielded mike wire, to use as a shielded sniffer probe. Go stage by stage killing power, and see where the oscillation originates. A scope would help, but the counter probably is OK. I would bet the counter shows the oscillation out of the ham band?

Remedial methods might be: Check that RF chokes if handwound, resonate with a grid dip meter or inductance meter, out of the ham band, above where you want to operate. Try adding a ferrite bead on each base lead. Did you build over an ample copper ground plane? If not, get a piece of circuit board with unetched copper to laminate copper side away from your board solder side, but ground the extra copper to your grounds at several places. Is your only ground a piece of wire from input to output? That might be not low enough impedance. Hopefully they told you how to lay out, or furnished a board, but some kits are pretty assuming you will do all the details.

I prefer a straight line layout, say inputs on left of board, outputs to the right; sometimes a "U" layout works, but one must be careful of excessive lead lengths of power and control lines, and avoid crossing inputs over outputs, to prevent coupling leading to oscillation. I always like to see power and power common ground brought in on twisted heavier wires. Coax to input connector, and coax to output connector, and any other path carrying RF, shielded.

Well, there is a quick overview of things. And don't forget first thing is to make sure your power source is "stiff", (can deliver sufficient current at the proper voltage, and is bypassed with capacitors for RF.) Once, I found that the most "bulletproof" power bypassing is with a combination of say 10 MF Tantalum, 0.1 MF ceramic, and 0.001 ceramic, all in parallel as close to the place power comes onto the board as possible. That is another underdone thing in some designs. All leads should be minimum length.

Good Luck,
Stuart K5KVH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [2026] Re: Outbacker Antenna
Message-ID: <950726130930_123407197@aol.com>

The outbacker is a helically wound antenna which has the unused inductance shorted by a tap. It might also be possible to make a similar multiband helical whip of your own using PVC, varnished wood, etc. In an experimental

helical I made, changing sites and ground radial layout had a great effect on antenna resonance so like the outbacker, there would have to be a method of fine-tuning the antenna after a band is selected by the tap.

72, Jay
WB6AAM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jul 26 19:11:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [2028] Re: VXO or VF0???
Message-ID: <950726131302_123407189@aol.com>

On a similar subject, A company called CBC (ads in the Ham magazines) used to offer CB-to-ham conversions. One of the things they offered in their conversion was to modify the "clarifier" so it would track receive AND transmit.

I owned a modified CB rig (Cobra 146GTL) 10 years ago and used it on 10-meter QRP. A thing which annoyed me about the mod was that with the VXO now tuning transmit and receive, there was no way to RIT ("clarify") those hearing-impaired hams who cannot tune SSB. I also found that receive and transmit did not track equally (which I probably could have adjusted myself).

Looking back, it might have been better to stick to channelized SSB-AM operation with my rig and leave the "clarifier" (RIT) alone.

I heard there have been attempts at frequency lists and standards for SSB and AM CB-to-10/12 meter conversions so everyone will be on the same channel?

72, Jay
WB6AAM